The last genus of the family Elephantidae is *Mastodon,* so called from the structure of the molar teeth. These are provided with but few transverse ridges, not more than five, so that their structure is intermediate between those of *Dinofherium* and those of *Stegodon,* Between the ridges are sometimes isolated, boss-like protuberances (whence the name of *Mastodon),* produced by a subdivision of the ridges. There is either but little or no cement between the ridges. This genus differs from nearly all other Elephantidae by the possession of milk molars, which occasionally persist throughout life, the permanent dentition in those cases being a mixture of milk and permanent teeth, as has been (erroneously) stated of the Hedgehog.[1]

The tusks (incisors) are sometimes present in both jaws, and as they have, during youth at any rate, a coating of enamel, the likeness to the chisel-shaped incisors of Hodents is patent. In connexion with the implantation of incisors in the lower jaw, many species have a prolongation of the bones of that part of the skeleton. In the bones, generally, there is not very much difference from. *JfilepTias,* but the forehead is a little less pronounced. The genus existed from the Miocene and became extinct in the Pleistocene. It was nearly world - wide in range, being known from all four continents. Naturally with this very wide range was associated a large number of species. Zittei enumerates no less than thirty-two.

This genus is the only one of the Elephantidae which extended its range into South America, where the remains of two species occur. The bones of these great Elephants have attracted attention for some centuries. They were often held to be the bones of giants (as they actually were 1), and in one ease were ascribed to a deceased monarch, Teutobochus. The American Indians considered that equally gigantic men lived who were able to combat these great Proboscideans. There are legends of the Mastodons as living animals, which is quite probable, considering their geological age. There is a curious parallelism between the legends of two such widely-separated localities as North America and Greece. Buffon relates how among the Indians of Canada there was

a belief that t&e ®reat Being destroyed both Mastodons and men of equal propartions, with thunderbolts. With this we may perhaps compare the story of the destruction of Typhoeus by Zeus, who

[1] 0ee Boak m *Sfatnx. £ooL Soc** ?L 1868, p. 227.